

HB 10 - Maryland Transit Administration - Conversion to Zero-Emission Buses (Zero-Emission Bus Transition Act Revisions)

Assigned to: Environmental & Transportation and Appropriations SUPPORT

Carrington & Associates, LLC supports HB 10 - Maryland Transit Administration - Conversion to Zero-Emission Buses (Zero-Emission Bus Transition Act Revisions). This bill will put Maryland on a path that will improve regional air quality, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and provide riders with a quieter, comfier ride. Transitioning to zero-emission technology requires more than just new buses. The workforce training components are essential as well as building capacity with charging stations and improving battery storage. Additionally, the worker protections that the bill covers are equally as essential to avoid displacing workers as we move toward new technologies.

Hundreds of thousands of diesel buses continue to operate around the country, and most average less than five miles to the gallon. The emissions from these diesel buses can cause or exacerbate diseases like asthma. It's no coincidence asthma rates are highest among city dwellers; they live where diesel buses are more prevalent. And people of color and low-income residents, especially children, typically suffer disproportionately from particulate matter, like the kind emitted from diesel buses. African-American children, for example, are three times more likely to be admitted to the hospital for asthma than other children, and Latino children are 60 percent more likely.

We can and must do better.

For these reasons, Carrington & Associates, LLC enthusiastically supports HB 10 and asks for your FAVORABLE report.

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